

Pharyngoscope.—ANDRÉ (*Annales des Mal. de l'Oreille, du Lar., du Nez, et du Pharynx*, March, 1911) describes a new pharyngoscope very much on the model of Hays', but provided with an articulating mirror which can be deflected in different directions by a guide in the handle.

Embryonic Cysts of the Gums and Retropharyngeal Region.—ONODI exhibited to the Royal Hungarian Society of Physicians (*Jour. of Lar., Rhinol., and Otol.*, August, 1911) an eight months' fetus with cysts in the gums and retropharynx filled with embryonic jelly. The retropharyngeal cyst was 10 mm. long, 13 mm. high, and 16 mm. broad.

Telangiectasis Affecting the Mouth, Pharynx, and Larynx.—SAFRANEK reports (*Jour. of Lar., Rhinol., and Otol.*, August, 1911) this case in a male patient, aged twenty-six years. The right half of the face showed dilated veins, and in the lateral region of the neck the veins showed through the skin as distinct bluish streaks. On the under-surface of the tongue the veins were enlarged to the thickness of a quill. On the dorsum near the tip the dilated vessels had formed two blood-spaces about the size of a bean. On the right side of the soft palate a network of dilated vessels was visible. On the alveolar process of the lower jaw there was a purplish swelling about the size of a bean, composed of tortuous vessels and a similar, but larger tumor lay in the recess of the right pyriform sinus. No further changes were discoverable in the circulatory or other organs.

Lipoma of the Pharynx.—KENYON reports (*Jour. Amer. Med. Assoc.*, June 17, 1911) a large lipoma of the laryngopharynx removed extra-orally under cocaine from a woman aged twenty-seven years. It measured $3\frac{1}{4}$ inches in length, $2\frac{1}{4}$ inches in breadth, and 1 inch in thickness. The patient did well, and three years later reported with an increase of weight from 124 to 156 pounds. The pharynx appeared normal except for two or three small obscure patches of thin, shiny, scar tissue.

Malignant Rhinomaxillary Myxoma.—BOTÉY reports (*Annales des Mal. de l'Oreille, du Lar., du Nez, et du Pharynx*, 1911 No. 6,) a case of this kind, with fronto-orbital and meningeal propagation recurring after extensive exenteration, and terminating fatally with symptoms of meningo-encephalitis some two and one-half months after the intervention. The reporter refers to a number of instances of malignant pure myxoma in other regions of the body which recurred almost inevitably after operation. The case referred to is unique in its position and extent. The only case resembling it which he could find was a pedunculated myxoma of the nasal septum, removed by Chiari, with cure of the patient.

Foreign Bodies in the Esophagus.—GUISEZ, in an elaborate article based upon his most recent cases of foreign bodies in the esophagus and tracheobronchial tract, describes (*Annales des Mal. de l'Oreille, du Lar., du Nez, et du Pharynx*, March, 1911), among others, two very ingenious instruments—one for cracking bones which are impacted in the walls of the tubes, and a tube capable of dilatation at its distal extremity, so as to stretch the walls of the esophagus and facilitate the better grasping of the foreign body.

OTOLOGY.

UNDER THE CHARGE OF

CLARENCE J. BLAKE, M.D.,

PROFESSOR OF OTOTOLOGY IN THE HARVARD MEDICAL SCHOOL, BOSTON

The Treatment of Syphilis by Means of Ehrlich's Arsenobenzol.—FINGER, KREN, and ALEXANDER (*Wien. klin. Woch.*, 1910, No. 47, 48, and 50). The first of these papers is a summary of 170 carefully observed cases subjected to this treatment during a period of five months, in the author's clinic, the observations being further continued after the termination of clinical attendance. The importance of the observations made, in the general aspect of the subject, entitle the communication to careful reading, but for the purposes of a special review it may be excerpted with advantage. A patient, aged twenty-two years, with tertiary syphilis, exhibited, on the first day after the injection, nystagmus, dizziness, and typical vertigo of direction, the auditory apparatus remaining intact. These isolated implications of the vestibular nerve disappeared in a few days. The second case was that of a patient, aged twenty-five years, with an acquired syphilis of six weeks' duration, who, nine weeks after the injection, became the subject of a binaural labyrinthine impairment of hearing which had continued unchanged at the time of the last observation, three weeks after its onset. The Wassermann reaction was negative. The third case was that of a patient with syphilis of three months' standing, who became the subject of labyrinthine impairment of hearing three months after the injection, a condition which had remained unchanged during a period of three weeks' careful observation; in this case, also, the Wassermann was negative. In the first of these cases it was the opinion of Ehrlich that the evidences were those of the Herxheimer reaction, the vestibular nerve being the seat of a latent syphilitic affection, which, exacerbated under the influence of the injection, resulted in swelling and corresponding pressure upon the vestibular nerve. To the two latter cases, however, this explanation is not applicable, in both of them the Wassermann was negative, there had been no secondary manifestations, nor were these justly expected, and the aural symptoms would, inferentially, be referable to the arsenobenzol as their cause. The observations of Kren, reported in the following number of the same publication, covered 140 cases subjected to this form of treatment. The existent aural complications in the observed cases were of a simple character, catarrhal conditions of the tympanopharyngeal tube, middle-ear disturbances, and occlusion of the external canal. One patient, aged thirty-four years, exhibited, two months after an injection of 0.5 arsenobenzol, a labyrinthine deafness; in this case, observation in the clinic of Urbantschitsch left the question still open as to the responsibility of the constitutional disease or of the medication for the aural condition. In 60 cases treated with arsenobenzol and referred to the Urbantschitsch clinic by Riehl, Finger, and Ehr-